MR. BAGAMANE DEVA GOWDA.—What steps have you taken to compensate the parties?

AGENT, MYSORE RAILWAYS.—As stated in the answer to (*d*), that question has been referred to the Deputy Commissioner.

MR. BAGAMANE DEVA GOWDA.—What are the instructions given by the Government to the Deputy Commissioner in regard to the quantum of compensation to be recommended?

AGENT, MYSORE RAILWAYS.—The answer is contained in (*d*). And further details can be discussed only in course of time because the matter is *sub judice*.

MR. BAGAMANE DEVA GOWDA.—How many have applied for compensation?

AGENT, MYSORE RAILWAYS.—Notice.

MR. BAGAMANE DEVA GOWDA.—Why not appoint a committee to recommend suitable compensation in each case?

AGENT, MYSORE RAILWAYS.—Action is being taken to settle the question of compensation.

MR. BAGAMANE DEVA GOWDA.—Apart from the issues pending before the courts, what objection is there to disposing of the question of compensation independently?

AGENT, MYSORE RAILWAYS.—Many issues are expected to come up in the course of the inquiry which might affect the question of compensation also.

DEWAN.—If the matter is *sub judice*, no further information can be given.

REPRESENTATIONS—*Contd.*

No. 26.—Levy of wet assessment in lieu of temporary water rate and cesses.

Messrs. Gurubasappa, K. C. Subbanna and K. V. Veeranna, Chamarajnagar Taluk; H. Hombe Gowda and N. Veeraraje Urs, T.-Narsipur Taluk; H. K. Madaiah, Malvalli Taluk; T. M. Kapanaiya Gowda and K. M. Krishnappa Gowda, Nagamangala Taluk; T. Mariappa, Mysore City Municipality; M. C. Linge Gowda, Maddur Taluk; B. Chamayya, Seringapatam Taluk; M. A. Khuraishi, Minorities; B. Siddalinga Setty, Special Interests; Basappa and Kongalappa, Gundlupet Taluk; Sannamallappa, Yelandur Jahgir; and Sivananje Gowda, Mysore Taluk.

MR. GURUBASAPPA prayed that permanent assessment be levied in lieu of temporary water rate and cesses in respect of lands under wet cultivation for over five years.

MR. P. SITARAMIAH added that in view of the construction of the right bank low level channel, re-survey settlement was conducted in 1918, after which water rate began to be collected on a rather arbitrary basis, and that the water rate *plus* the original dry assessment was higher than the wet assessment in any part of that area. The landholders had paid heavily for more than a dozen years and the representation was to the effect that in all those cases, wet assessment alone be levied even at the maximum rates prevailing under the channel.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that before giving any answer to the representation, Government would like to ascertain the exact reasons why these lands were not charged wet rates, and that this would be done in view of the representation.

MR. P. SITARAMIAH next brought to notice that in view of the block system of irrigation, which was insisted on in every case, there was little justification in the Government levying the usual assessment *plus* a water rate on all the lands irrigated by the channel; because the block system implied one-third of each holding not to be put to use for wet or garden cultivation.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL promised to look into this question also.

MR. M. C. LINGE GOWDA requested that in this connection, the case of the villages under the left bank low level channel of the Krishnarajasagara also be examined.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL promised to consider the request.

No. 27.—Levy of dry assessment in lieu of wet assessment on lands lying under tanks which are in disrepair.

Mr. Veere Gowda, Dodballapur Taluk.

MR. VEERE GOWDA represented that

many tanks had not been repaired and consequently, wet crops could not be raised under them. Although this state of affairs had continued for several years, it was very unjust to recover wet assessment on lands under such tanks. He therefore prayed that until such tanks were repaired and restored, only dry assessment be recovered on lands under them.

MR. M. S. PUTTARAMA SETTY supported the speaker.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that this was not a new question by any means and that the rules in force already provided for the grant of suitable relief in deserving cases. If they had not been given effect to in any place, it was up to the aggrieved parties to bring it to notice of the higher officers.

MR. S. C. MALLIAH explained that since the tanks were in disrepair, wet cultivation was not at all possible and the representation, therefore, was for charging only dry rates instead of half wet rates. So long as there was no water supply at all, there was no reason in levying wet rates whether the full demand was collected or only half of it. If necessary, Government might agree to levy dry rates at least so long as the tanks continued to be in disrepair.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL regretted that it would not be possible to grant the request. It would not be correct to say that wet cultivation was not at all possible in any part of the *atchkat* under a breached tank. On the contrary, he was aware of a number of cases in which dry cultivation was not possible because the moisture in the land was too much for it.

MR. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY did not agree that mere moisture helped wet cultivation when a tank had no water and when rain-fall also failed. However that be, so long as the tank did not supply water enough for wet cultivation, the Government would not be justified in levying wet assessment. This, he said, was one of the questions engaging the attention of the special committee appointed to recommend suitable relief to agriculturists in view of the present economic depression, and he prayed that if the committee were to recommend a modification of the rules in this respect, the Government might be pleased to accept it.

MR. B. S. PUTTASWAMY strongly pleaded for a modification of the rules in favour of the landholders.

MR. H. KRISHNAMURTHI ACHAR represented that the agriculturists concerned with dry cultivation had gone on paying assessment in the past even though in some years their crops had failed. The Government should not expect them to continue to pay in future also because, for years together, rain-fall had been quite inadequate. He therefore requested that the Government, instead of insisting on *mamool*, would hereafter see the justice of granting remissions or other suitable relief in the case of dry lands also.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER observed that in cases where the restoration of tanks had to be given up definitely, the Government would consider sympathetically the request for the levy of full dry rates instead of half wet.

No. 28.—Recovery of land revenue arrears in instalments after restoration of *khates*.

Mr. K. V. Veeranna, Chamarajanagar Taluk.

MR. K. V. VEERARNNA prayed that lands sold for arrears of revenue and resumed to Government might be restored to the raiyats and arrears recovered in instalments, notice fee, *ishihar* fee and interest being remitted.

He added that on account of coercive processes taken within the past two or three years, several lands had actually gone out of cultivation due to inability on the part of the *khatedars* to meet the land revenue demand together with the various other penalties. In the interests of poor agriculturists, he requested that Government might extend, as a very special case, the help prayed for in the representation.

MR. H. K. MADAIAH referred to certain special concessions announced by the Government at the end of the previous session of the Assembly and represented that those were not at all being given effect to by subordinate

officials. The only relief that would actually help poor agriculturists, therefore, lay in the Government being pleased to order that the lands should be given back to the owners, the penalties usually levied in cases of default being waived.

MR. C. PATTABHIRAMA SETTY represented that even the kind promise of the Government, that on unstamped petitions also local officials would take action to restore lands to defaulters on payment merely of the arrear of land revenue, was not being given effect to. Regular stamped applications were being insisted upon and in several taluks a large income had been realized under this head.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that such special concessions ought not to be extended to anybody and everybody that applied for it. If this was done, every one would lapse into default and get back the land for the mere asking.

MR. L. VEMA REDDY subscribed himself entirely to this view.

MR. G. KANCHAPPA requested that the Government might at least be pleased to waive the *isthihar* fee in cases where land revenue was fully paid up by the end of June.

Supporting this view, MR. S. C. MALLIAH observed that, after all, the Government were not deriving any large revenue from this source.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that it was not merely a question of additional revenue. So long as there was default in respect of any payment due to Government, it was but right that there must be a penalty. He therefore regretted that the Government were not prepared to accept the representation.

No. 29.—Entrusting the Revenue Department with the distribution of water in channels as before.

Mr. Sidde Gowda, T.-Narsipur Taluk.

MR. SIDDE GOWDA prayed that the authority to regulate water in channels might be vested in the Revenue Department as before. By this arrangement he thought that there would be better distribution of water and that the grievances of the rayiats would be remedied quickly. He added that he had brought specific instances to the notice of the Chief Engineer wherein, due to the indiscreet letting out of water by Engineering officers, tanks which had full supply had become empty in the course of a few days. If distribution of water was entrusted to revenue officers, they would do their duty in a more responsible manner. Secondly, Engineering officers did not have much to do with the raiyats, whereas revenue officers, being the persons who had to visit the villages on a number of occasions, who came into contact with the rayiats and were responsible for the collection of revenue, would be interested in seeing that the available water was put to the best possible use.

MR. B. SRINIVASA RAO however thought that distribution of water should always remain with officers of the Engineering Department and never with revenue officers.

THE DEWAN observed that it would be well to watch for some time how the new order of things worked.

MR. K. RAMANNA said that the original practice of the revenue officers being entrusted with the duty of distribution of water during the irrigation season was very helpful from the point of view of agriculturists. Engineering officers who had not the interests of the rayiats at heart were not caring for their representations, and at a time when water was most needed by cultivators they went on wasting time in mere correspondence so that by the time they made up their minds to let out water, either all the water would have flown out or the supply would be too late.

Many other members also expressed the same view.

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, said that whether the distribution of water was entrusted to Engineering officers or to revenue officers, it would be the same in effect. There was no doubt that there was much wastage at present and unless that was prevented complaints were bound to exist in all parts of the State.

In his own opinion, the best way of preventing the waste of water was to appoint an Advisory Board or an Irrigation Panchayet in respect of each major tank or groups of tanks so that the members thereof would consider the quantity of the supply available, the extent of lands to be given the benefit of it and the best way of controlling the distribution.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that two years ago the same matter had come up for discussion and that some members had favoured distribution of water being vested in Engineering officers, though some others had favoured this work being entrusted to revenue officers. After a consideration of all aspects of the question, Government had ordered the present system. But whoever was in charge of distribution, it was necessary that officers of both the departments co-operated with each other. There was no reason to apprehend that Engineering officers would discharge their duty in a manner prejudicial to the interests of agriculturists. If, in any case, it was really so, there was absolutely nothing to prevent the aggrieved parties from preferring an appeal to the Deputy Commissioner and getting suitable remedy. He would therefore ask the members not to press for a change before the recent orders of Government had been fully tried.

MR. K. RAMANNA brought to notice that even though the rules permitted of appeals to the Deputy Commissioner, ignorant raiyats from interior villages were really unable to take advantage of it. Even if a few went to the district headquarters, they could not be sure of gaining access to the Deputy Commissioner or getting relief.

Dharmapravartha M. L. NAGAPPA SETTY and MR. P. SITARAMIAH thought that the distribution of water had best be entrusted to officers of the Engineering Department as at present, for, after all, they were in charge of repairs and maintenance of both tanks and channels under them.

No. 30.—Free supply of water in all channels for growing manurial crops.

Messrs. T. S. Madappa, Siddappa and B. S. Puttaswamy, Nanjangud Taluk.

MR. B. S. PUTTASWAMY represented that in view of the low prices and the difficulties experienced by agriculturists in payment of *kandayam*, etc., water from all channels might be supplied in summer, free of charge, for growing manurial crops.

MR. B. SIDDALINGA SETTY represented that the difficulties of the raiyats had become very acute owing to heavy assessment, fall in prices and conversion of all available *gomal* into cultivable lands. He therefore requested that the representation be sympathetically considered.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL promised to examine the feasibility of granting the request.

PRIVATE BILL.

Bill to enforce Legislation for the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in the State.

With the permission of the Dewan, Mr. D. S. MALLAPPA rose to explain the general principles of the Bill.

MR. HOSKOPPA KRISHNA RAO, rising to a point of order objected that this Bill could not be taken up for the reason that the other items of non-official business included in the agenda had not been fully gone through. As per programme, the whole day as well as the previous day and the next day were meant for the discussion of resolutions, barring half an hour at the beginning of each day for questions. Though Rule 4 of the Representative Assembly Regulation empowered the President to alter the order of business according to his discretion, the President could not do anything which would in effect reduce the time once allotted for non-official business. If the Dewan thought that this Bill also came under the description of non-official business, the speaker would respectfully beg to say that it was not so. For, under Rule 6 of the Legislative Council Regulation, it was Government alone that could place before either House any Bill of which a private mem-